



November 15, 2010

Folsom State Prison Celebrates 130 years of Public Safety Service -- Free Museum Entry

REPRESA – Folsom State Prison, the state's second-oldest prison, celebrates 130 years of public safety service in 2010.

As part of the celebration, admission to the Folsom Prison Museum will be free through Nov. 24, the day before Thanksgiving. The museum is on the grounds of the state's iconic correctional facility.

"While Folsom State Prison enjoys a legendary status not many prisons can claim, it is a living, working correctional facility that continues – 130 years later – to house, feed and provide rehabilitation opportunities for inmates in the state prison system," said Scott Kernan, CDCR Operations Undersecretary.

The prison was formally opened July 26, 1880, with the transfer of 44 of San Quentin State Prison's toughest "cons" as the first inhabitants. By September 1880, the prison had a population of 208

inmates. The single-cell capacity of the prison at that time was 328, hewn from

California State Prison, Sacramento, built in 1986, sit on 1,200 acres.

Folsom was the first prison in the world to have electric power, which was provided by the first hydroelectric powerhouse in California.

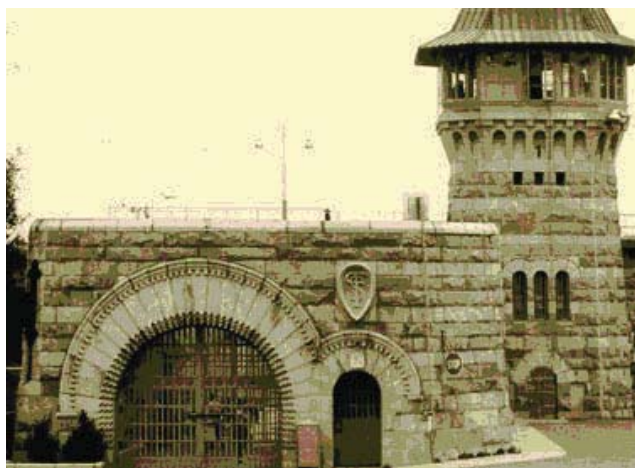
The quarry at Folsom provided granite for the foundation of the state capitol and much of the gravel was used in the early construction of California's roads.

The four-room museum features hundreds of exhibits and artifacts dating back to the 1878 construction of Folsom State Prison.

The museum occupies one of the oldest buildings on the prison grounds, a house built in 1875 by the Natoma Mining Company.

For more information or for directions to the museum, please call (916) 985-2561 extension 4589 or visit its website www.folsomprisonmuseum.org

For more history of Folsom Prison, please visit the webpage <http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/history/folsom/index.html>



Iconic Folsom State Prison has served the state for 130 years.

steel, iron and granite generated from local forges and quarries.

Today, the prison, with its own ZIP code and locale referred to as "Represa," houses nearly 3,600 Level II and III medium-security inmates and has 1,100 staff. Folsom State Prison and the adjacent

GPS Roundup: CDCR Arrests 17 Sex Offenders at nearly 20 County and Local Fairs

CDCR announced that 17 sex offenders on Global Positioning System (GPS) monitoring were arrested for being on the grounds of the State or county fairs. Statewide, more than 100 CDCR parole agents worked with local police agencies, checking for sex offenders at 17 different fairgrounds. Additional agents provided monitoring from remote locations.

"With the use of GPS technology and patrols by CDCR parole agents, a significant contribution to public safety was achieved by keeping GPS-monitored sex offender parolees away from the state and county fairs," said Robert Ambroselli, Director, CDCR Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO).

For a second year in a row, parole agents using GPS technology created exclusion

zones around fairgrounds to alert agents of any parolee sex offender entering the zones. Agents monitored remotely and on-site using laptop computers. Other agents, working in tandem with local law enforcement agencies, patrolled fairgrounds. Prior to the events, parolee

sex offenders were instructed by their parole agents not to enter the exclusion zones.

During the operation, which lasted from June 23 through Oct. 3, parole agents and local law enforcement made the arrests. Parole agents also monitored movements of gang members using GPS tracking, and there were no reported incidents or arrests involving gang members at the fairs.

In 2009, 35 sex offenders were arrested in similar operations at eight fairs, including five at the California State Fair and 14 at the Los Angeles County Fair. The decline in arrests in 2010 may indicate sex offenders are getting the message to stay away from public events with children.



Media at the California State Fair watch a GPS track.